

LAAC: Weekly Leadership Update

November 16, 2018

November 21, 2018 (short Mon-Wed week, Thanksgiving)

Agenda

- 1. North Star: Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements**
 - We suggest setting a follow-up meeting with Board Vice President Nick Melvoin's office during the week of December 10 or December 17 to present our data about potential candidates for a multi-year and/or expedited Prop 39 pilot program. Would either of you like to join that meeting and conversation?
 - If so, what dates work best for both of you?
- 2. North Star: Renewal Criteria & Performance Framework**
 - Do you want us to schedule an option call (likely 1st week of December) for LAAC members to react to information learned at the final Performance Framework meeting and to preview the 12/11 presentation at LAUSD?
 - Were there critical takeaways from the LAAC meeting you want us to reinforce at the final SPF working group meeting?
- 3. North Star: Authorizing Policy & Oversight**
 - Can we take time during the December LAAC meeting for an activity designed to elicit anecdotal and qualitative data from LAAC member schools that illustrates specific charter leader experiences with CSD processes and personnel?
- 4. North Star: BD5 Representation**
 - Do you want to view the recording of the candidate forum when it becomes available? Confidentially we have heard feedback that Ana Cubas and Justine Gonzalez were especially strong, and Allison was maybe a close third.
 - We are hearing that UTLA is endorsing Jackie Goldberg and pushed Heather Repenning not to take any money from charter schools.
- 5. Sub-Priority: Locally-Led Legislative Advocacy**
 - Do you want us to schedule an option call (likely 1st week of December) for LAAC members to preview possible recommendation our team will take to CCSA Board in December?
- 6. Sub-Priority: Strike Preparedness**
 - Alex mentioned at an event this week that he expects unionized charters to engage in sympathy actions. We anticipate holding a call with those unionized charters including Green Dot to help prepare them- should we take other steps to plan?
- 7. Ad Hoc Sub-Priority: Charter Community CAO Supports**
 - When do you want CAO convening supports to launch? Before end of 2018 or Q1 2019? We recommend targeting Q1 2019 and possibly having LAAC consider a more detailed plan at December or January meeting.
- 8. Ad Hoc Sub-Priority: LAAC Leadership Transition**
 - We recommend setting up time to discuss with Myrna. Do you want us to do that or would you like to?
 - CDJ: Is there any specific supports from NACSA you'd like for SPI Action Team?
- 9. Additional Updates:**
 - The Coalition group has hired Angelica Solis, formerly of YPI and Alliance for A Better Community, to lead their work.

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- We are scheduling dates for the first meeting of what we hope will form the core of our LA County Advocacy Council. (CDJ has been invited.) Do you have suggestions for this first gathering?

Pre-Reading

North Star: Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements

Create a formal and sustainable system for long-term facilities use agreements between LAUSD and charter schools beginning in the 2019-20 school year, where long-term is defined to be petition co-terminus or longer, by establishing a clear change in facilities policy.

- **Current Strategy:**
 - Our strategy is to maximize opportunities aligned with LAUSD leadership (e.g., Superintendent Beutner and Board Vice President Melvoin) and their facilities-related priorities. In doing so, we will strategically challenge the District's assertion that long-term facilities use agreements are legally untenable under Prop 39 while expeditiously pursuing other viable paths toward implementing multi-year agreements.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
 - Last week the LAAC heard updates about LAAC leadership and CCSA engagement with Board District 4 and Board District 6 on multi-year agreements, including potential pilot programs. Facilities and RA completed an initial aggregation of data to help identify schools to participate in the potential pilot programs, but, in doing so, identified a need for additional data to inform recommendations. On Thursday, 11/15, follow-up facilities questions were sent to ~55 co-located schools.
- **What's Happening Next Week:**
 - Facilities and RA will follow-up with the co-located schools to gather the facilities information needed to identify schools for the potential pilot programs. We will plan to summarize the data and review with LAAC leadership during our 11/26 check-in.
- **Working Group Updates:**
 - No updates.

North Star: Renewal Criteria & Performance Framework

In the absence of updated statewide criteria, secure LAUSD charter renewal criteria that prioritizes student academic outcomes and – only when necessary – considers multiple measures but does not substitute academic achievement with non-academic outcome measures of limited value.

Secure a performance framework that lays the foundation for system-wide school improvement through a similar focus on student academic achievement. At a minimum, charter renewal criteria will remain protected as LAUSD adopts a performance framework for all public schools.

- **Current Strategy:**
 - We will continue to document the need for consistent feedback and pushback on unreasonable benchmarks at CSD and with Board Members. We will influence the performance framework through District working groups, direct conversations with the superintendent's team, and with our Board members to ensure that academic outcomes are the core of any performance framework that influences renewal.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
 - LAAC discussed the SPF and expressed

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- A need to balance achievement status and growth
- an appreciation for cohort growth
- need to learn more about logistics of individual student-level growth
- Support for SEL but skepticism of a survey
- What's Happening Next Week:
 - We will monitor and analyze LAUSD Benchmarks for November votes.
 - Following LAAC conversation on PCNR, we will work to share new CCSA data reports with LAAC properly contextualized. (We have an email thread with CDJ on this as of Thursday afternoon.)
 - We will review a draft SPF at the final working group meeting Thursday. We are also setting up time with Board Member Melvoin's office to discuss the SPF specifically.
- Working Group Updates:
 - No new updates

North Star: Authorizing Policy & Oversight

Fundamentally improve the authorization and oversight experience for LA charter schools and the relationship between authorizer and charter schools in LA by securing structural reforms at LAUSD. In addition, continue to monitor OIG activity as it relates to LAUSD authorized charter schools.

- **Current Strategy:**
 - Our strategy is to build the case that CSD fails to efficiently and competently implement existing authorization and oversight policy and support a call for systemic structural and personnel within CSD.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
 - No new updates.
- **What's Happening Next Week:**
 - We will finalize anecdotal qualitative questions that we would like to use to supplement quantitative survey data obtained last year that illustrates specific charter leader experiences with CSD processes and personnel. We would potentially like to use time during the December LAAC meeting to get this data from LAAC member schools.
- Working Group Updates:
 - No new updates.

North Star: BD5 Representation

Maintain a kids-first local authorizing environment by securing: 1) interim appointment of a representative who supports the Superintendent and aligned board members; and 2) A special election primary in March; 3) LAAC alignment with a PAC.

- **Current Strategy:**
 - LA RA is working with CCSA's Civic Affairs, Operations, and Organizing teams to prepare for the March 5 primary election.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
 - Last week, we continued preparations for our 11/17 candidate forum, brought on additional members of the LA PAC, sent out our candidate questionnaire, and continued ongoing communications with candidates. We expect the forum to be at capacity but will do final outreach to charter leaders to ask that they share the event with school

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communities. We expect to finalize membership in the LA PAC in the coming weeks, although we have left the door open for leaders who expressed interest in joining at the executive summit.

- **What's Happening Next Week:**
 - After the forum, we expect to develop a rubric to assess candidate questionnaires and grade them starting the week of 11/26. We will likely send out video of the forum to all interested PAC members, and we will help to tabulate audience responses from the forum.
- **PAC Updates:**
 - We have transferred ownership of operations of the LA PAC to the CAPA team, but we continue to recruit select charter leaders who expressed interest in joining at the executive summit. We have held one meeting, a make-up call for those who could not be in attendance, and the next "meeting" will be at the forum.

Sub-Priority: Locally-Led Legislative Advocacy

Influence CCSA's legislative agenda so it aligns with issues that matter to our local membership.

- **Current Strategy:**
 - Build local influence over CCSA legislative advocacy priorities in advance of legislative session through direct engagement of LAAC and broader charter community.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
 - We met with NACSA staff to discuss the SPI Action Team. They indicated that they've heard the group is focused on examining oversight fees.
- **What's Happening Next Week?**
 - We will finalize a time for CDJ, Ana, and Gia to reconvene. The SPI Action Team's recommendations will take on additional importance now that the SPI race has been called for Tony Thurmond.

Sub-Priority: Strike Preparedness

Maintain a kids-first local authorizing environment by securing: 1) interim appointment of a representative who supports the Superintendent and aligned board members; and 2) A special election primary in March; 3) LAAC alignment with a PAC.

- **Current Strategy:**
 - LA RA is monitoring mediation while helping schools answer operations questions to stay open during a strike.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
 - We expect that no protests or actions will be held by UTLA until their march in Downtown Los Angeles on Saturday, December 15. *However, at an event we attended this week, Caputo-Pearl indicated his belief that unionized charters would engage in sympathy actions at their campuses. He additionally revealed that UTLA would release a breakdown of their bargaining proposals detailing how their proposals would affect district budgets – including increased charter regulations.*
 - Caputo-Pearl continues to identify charter regulation as a key objective in bargaining. In public comments, he has cited charters as a culprit for district fiscal issues and pointed to co-location as a method for regulating charter growth at LAUSD. Additionally, Caputo-

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Pearl has drawn attention to potential enrollment losses to charters during a strike as an area of concern and key reason for UTLA's current organizing strategy.

▪ **What's Happening Next Week?**

- We continue to monitor UTLA channels for further information on job actions, and we plan to convene a call with unionized charter leaders the week of 11/26. We are rescheduling the strike prep meeting for co-located principals.

Additional Updates

PCNR:

- This year's PCNR list was published this week on Wednesday, November 14. While there are no LAUSD-authorized schools, one ICEF Inglewood school operated by an LAAC member is included on our list. The ICEF Inglewood school is proceeding with its renewal petition. CCSA has been in touch with the Inglewood state administrator and board members about PCNR and will continue to follow-up.
- We met with the office of Mark Ridley Thomas to discuss the inclusion of ICEF Inglewood MS.

Personnel:

- We are still hiring to replace Jennie. Know any great candidates? Send them Cassy's way.